

# United Kingdom

# GEOGRAPHY

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# Climate

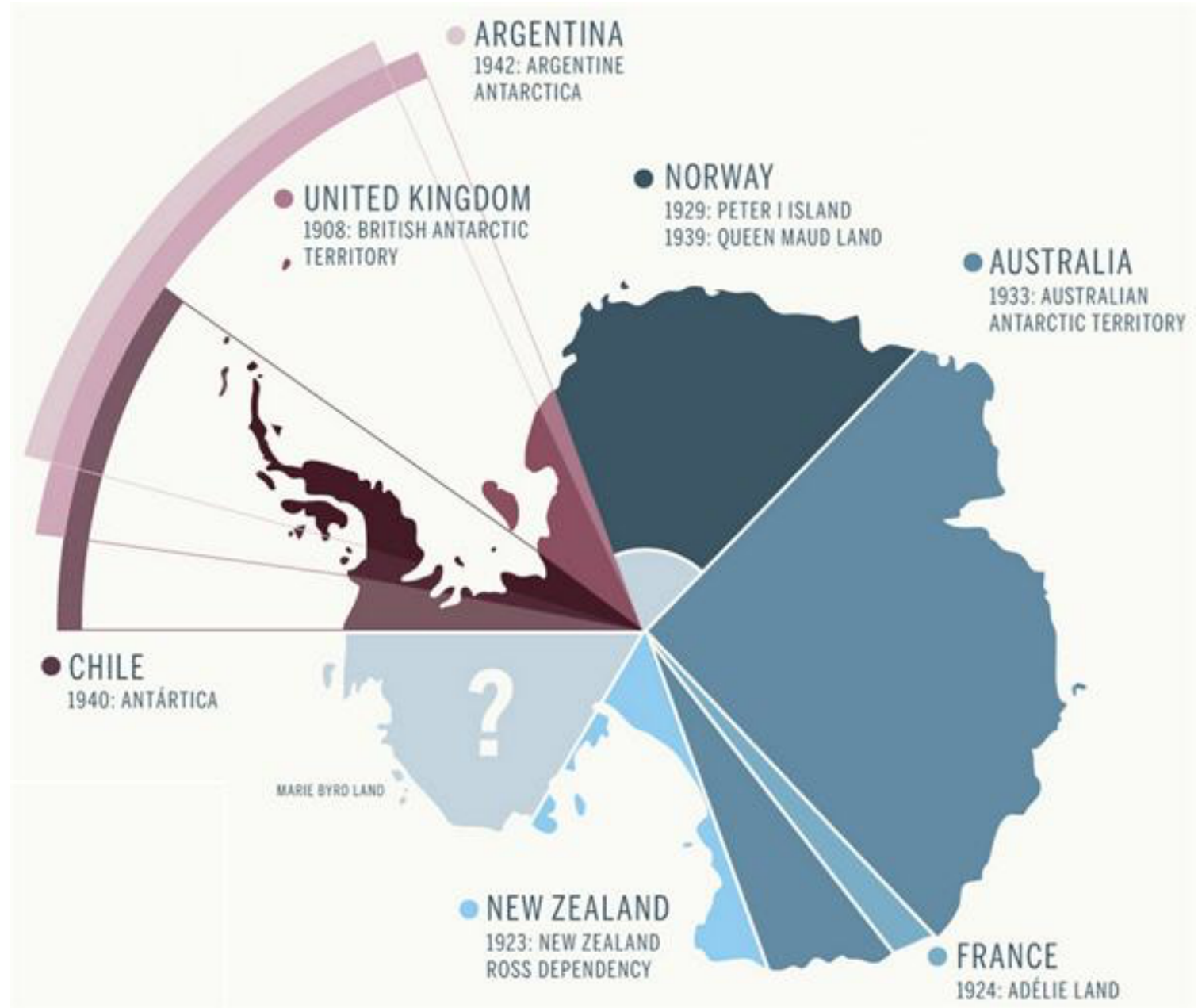
- The climate in Britain is more or less the same as that of the north-western part of the European mainland
- The amount of rain that falls on a town in Britain depends on where it is. Generally speaking, the further west you go, the more rain you get.

# The Environment and pollution

- Smog
- the world's first industrialized country
- the nineteenth century, London's 'pea-soupers' (thick fogs)
- 1952, London: a particularly bad smog, which lasted for several days, was estimated to have caused between 4,000 and 8,000 deaths.
- Until 1960: first thing that happened to people who fell into the Thames in London was that they were rushed to hospital to have their stomachs pumped!
- Global pollution problems and solutions (solar energy)

- Britain in danger of sea: global warming means rising sea levels everywhere, so that low-lying coastal areas are threatened
- Atlantic waves are becoming taller – strip sand from beaches
- London – especially vulnerable to flooding – Thames

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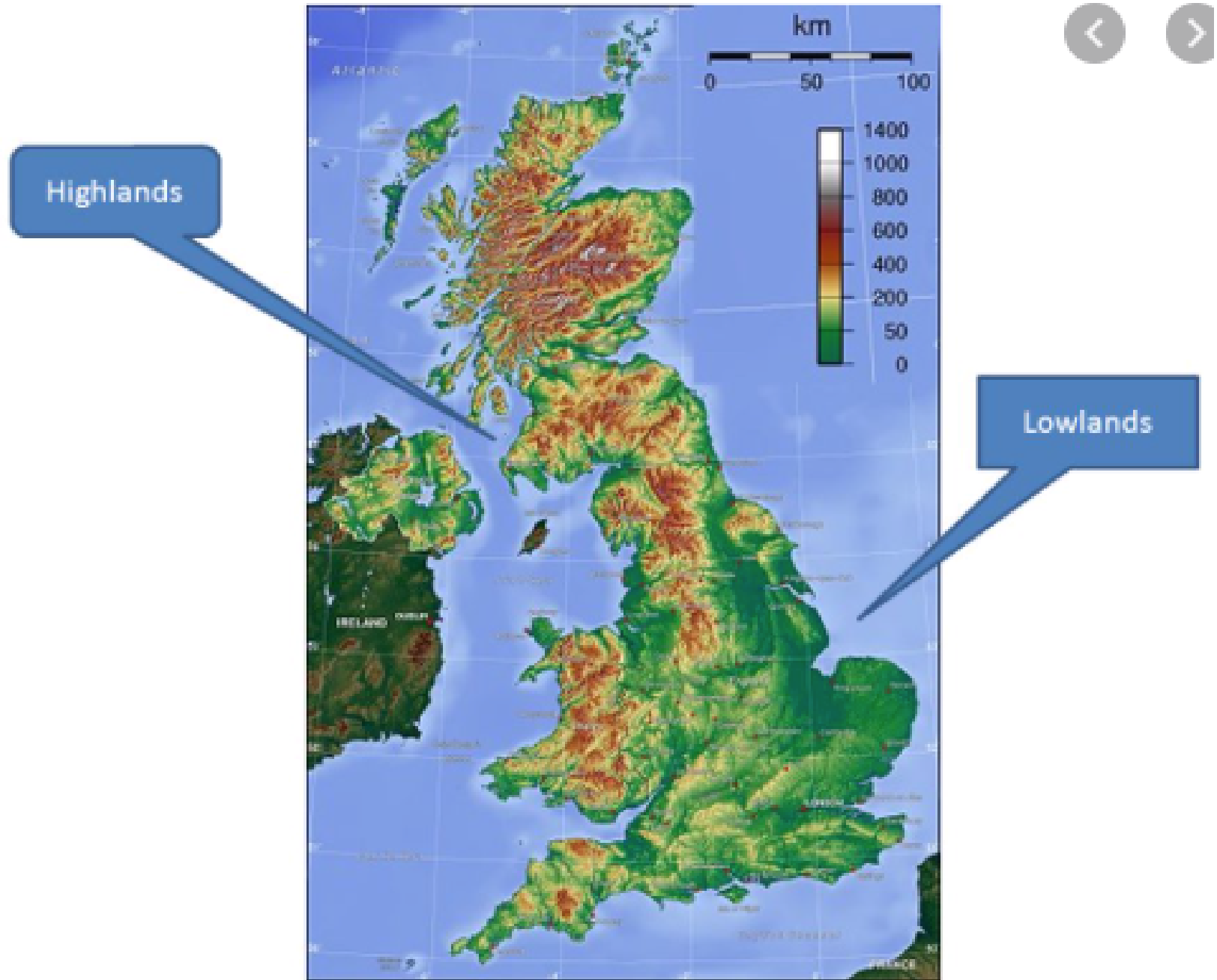


- 4 geographic and historical parts (England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland)
- Borders: - S: English Channel, E: North Sea, W, SW: Irish Sea, N: Atlantic Ocean
- At its widest the United Kingdom is 300 miles (500 km) across.
- From the northern tip of Scotland to the southern coast of England, it is about 600 miles (1,000 km).
- No part is more than 75 miles (120 km) from the sea.

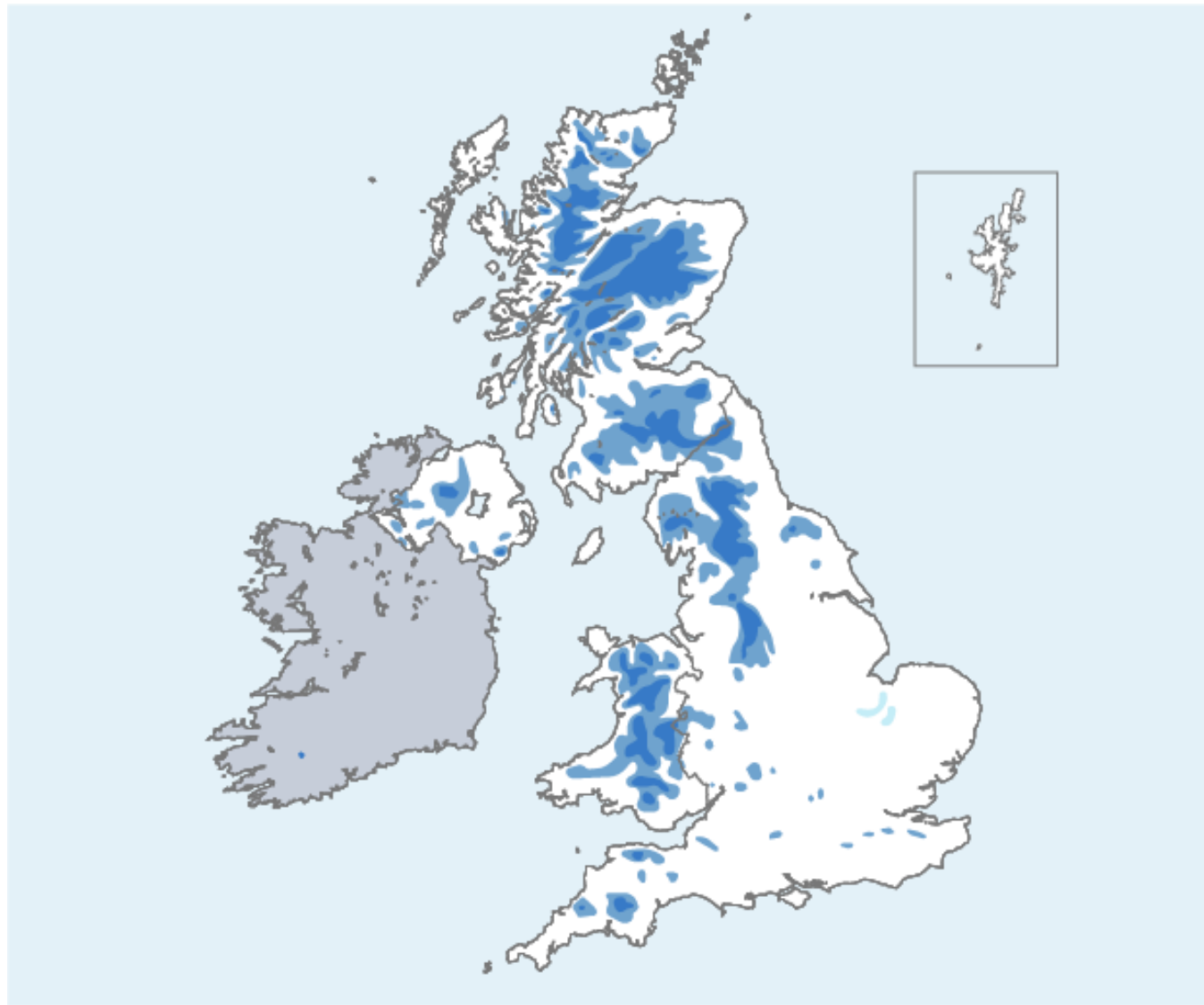


# Relief

- GB: traditionally
- Division: A line r southwest, to th







Height above sea level (m)



# The Highland Zone

- highest summit, **Ben Nevis**, only 4,406 feet (1,343 metres)
- Scotland's three main topographic regions: The **Northern Highlands** and the **Southern Uplands** are separated by the intervening rift valley, or subsided structural block, called the Midland Valley (or **Central Lowlands**).
- The highland zone of England and Wales consists, from north to south, of **4 broad upland masses**: the **Pennines**, the **Cumbrian Mountains**, the **Cambrian Mountains**, and the **South West Peninsula**.
- Cumbrian mountains – Lake district

# The Lowland Zone

- starts around the **Solway Firth** in the northwest, with a strip of low-lying ground extending up the fault-directed **Vale of Eden** (the valley of the River Eden).
- Dorset coast in Southern England
- The **Cleveland Hills** on the north coast of **Yorkshire**.

**Upland areas** are mainly found in:

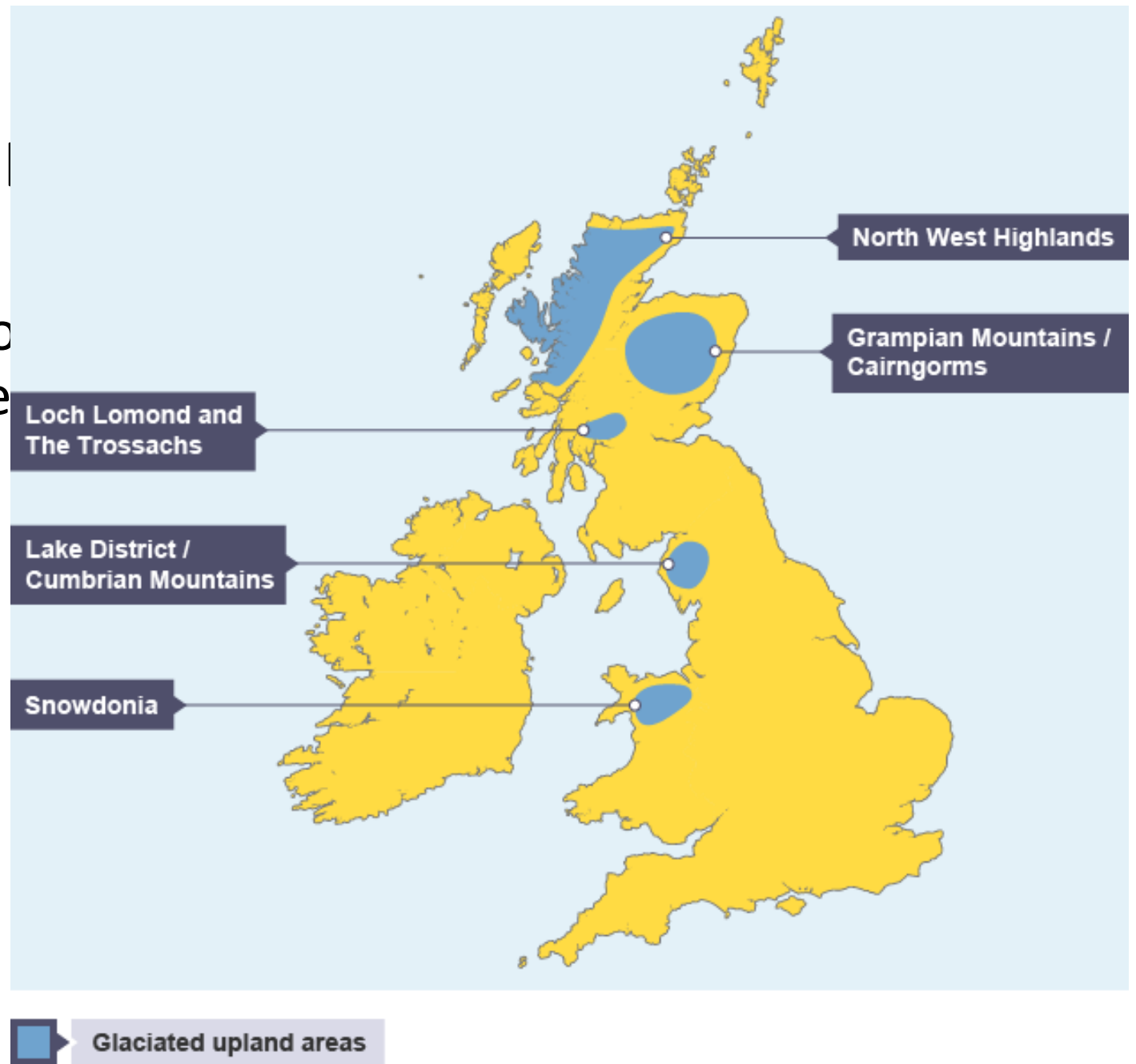
- **Scotland** - The Northwest Highlands, the Cairngorm Mountains, the Grampian Mountains and the Southern Uplands. Ben Nevis is the UK's highest peak and is found in the Grampian Mountains.
- **England** - The Pennines, Lake District, Dartmoor and Exmoor. Scafell Pike is the highest mountain in England and is found in the Lake District.
- **Wales** - Snowdonia and the Brecon Beacons. Snowdon is the highest mountain in Wales and is found in Snowdonia.

**Lowland areas** can be found in the following places:

- around The Wash (East Anglia and Lincolnshire)
- Lincolnshire
- the Fens in East Anglia - the lowest place in the UK
- the Midlands
- the London Basin
- the Vale of York

# The role of glaciers

- During the Ice Age ice eroded mountains and landscape



# Major rivers in the UK



<b>Name</b>	<b>Approximate length (km)</b>	<b>Countries run through</b>
Severn	354	Wales and England
Thames	346	England (South)
Tyne	321	England (North East)
Trent	298	England
Great Ouse	230	England (Centre)
Wye	215	Wales and England
Tay	188	Scotland
Spey	172	Scotland
Tweed	156	Scotland and England
Avon	154	England (Midlands and South West)



# London

- West End
- East End
- Outer parts of London (Southern England) commuter land

## Current Political Boundaries



- Scotland**  
Numbered political subdivisions
1. Aberdeen City
  2. West Dunbartonshire
  3. Inverclyde
  4. Renfrewshire
  5. North Ayrshire
  6. East Ayrshire
  7. East Renfrewshire
  8. Glasgow City
  9. East Dunbartonshire
  10. North Lanarkshire
  11. South Lanarkshire
  12. West Lothian
  14. Clackmannanshire
  15. Edinburgh City
  16. Midlothian

- Northern Ireland**  
Numbered political subdivisions
- |                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| 1. Ballymoney    | 9. Cookstown     |
| 2. Coleraine     | 10. Dungannon    |
| 3. Limavady      | 11. Craigavon    |
| 4. Magherafelt   | 12. Lisburn      |
| 5. Ballymena     | 13. Belfast City |
| 6. Carrickfergus | 14. Castlereagh  |
| 7. Newtownabbey  | 15. North Down   |
| 8. Antrim        | 16. Banbridge    |

- Wales**  
Numbered political subdivisions
1. Denbighshire
  2. Flintshire
  3. Wrexham
  4. Swansea
  5. Neath Port Talbot
  6. Bridgend
  7. Rhondda Cynon Taff
  8. Merthyr Tydfil
  9. Caerphilly
  10. Blaenau Gwent
  11. Torfaen
  12. Monmouthshire
  13. Vale of Glamorgan
  14. Cardiff
  15. Newport

[View former political divisions \(1975–1996\)](#)   [View cities](#)

- England**  
Numbered political subdivisions
- |                          |                        |                                  |
|--------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Darlington            | 13. Derby              | 25. North Somerset               |
| 2. Stockton-on-Tees      | 14. Nottingham         | 26. Bristol                      |
| 3. Hartlepool            | 15. Telford and Wrekin | 27. Bath and North East Somerset |
| 4. Middlesbrough         | 16. West Midlands      | 28. South Gloucestershire        |
| 5. Redcar and Cleveland  | 17. Leicester          | 29. Swindon                      |
| 6. Blackburn with Darwen | 18. Rutland            | 30. West Berkshire               |
| 7. Merseyside            | 19. Peterborough       | 31. Reading                      |
| 8. Halton                | 20. Warwickshire       | 32. Wokingham                    |
| 9. Warrington            | 21. Northamptonshire   | 33. Windsor and Maidenhead       |
| 10. Greater Manchester   | 22. Milton Keynes      | 34. Slough                       |
| 11. York                 | 23. Bedfordshire       | 35. Bracknell Forest             |
| 12. Stoke-on-Trent       | 24. Luton              | 36. Buckinghamshire              |

\* In 1996 the administrative powers of England's metropolitan counties passed to their constituent boroughs.  
\*\* Crown dependencies and therefore not a subdivision of the United Kingdom.